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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

[redacted]

Copy 12 of 12

17 June 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Field Activities, OSA

SUBJECT : Classification of Training and Test Film
from the B Camera System

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REFERENCES : A. [redacted] to DNRO frm: DD/R,
Subj: As Above

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B. [redacted] to COMOR frm: C/COMOR,
Subj: As Above

1. In reference A. the Deputy Director (Research) informed the NRO that

"1. Taking cognizance of the cumulative extent of publicity focused upon the performance capability of the U-2 aircraft in recent years a valid question has been raised as to the security requirement that all U-2 photography, regardless of content, bear a minimum classification of Secret.

"2. Effective immediately this requirement is rescinded, and U-2 photography henceforth should bear the security classification warranted by the content of the photography. Photography of non-sensitive targets classified Secret in the past merely because it was obtained by a U-2 aircraft can be downgraded as appropriate. This change is not intended to affect the special security classification of photography collected under Project IDEALIST nor the procedures established for downgrading such photography."

2. These paragraphs were quoted for the benefit of the members of the Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance in reference B.

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3. The basic memorandum signed by the DD/R was prepared by this Staff and prior to its release was coordinated with the D/TECH, D/FA, and Chairman, COMOR.

4. The Operations Division, OSA, has solicited guidance with regard to the security classification which should be given to training and test film of the B camera in the U-2 taken from IDEALIST U-2s.

5. It is the opinion of this Staff that such training and test film taken by the B camera system of non-sensitive targets can be processed and handled as unclassified material.

6. This particular authorization to handle this material in an unclassified manner applies only to film from the B camera system. This fact is reemphasized here since, of course, future developments may well make available more advanced camera systems for employment in this vehicle.

7. Although authority is granted here to treat this material as unclassified, it still must be borne in mind that this is official government property and the film should not under any circumstances be made available for personal purposes. It will, therefore, be necessary to stamp all such photography with the caveat "For Official Use Only." It must similarly be borne in mind that this authorization does not relieve the field Detachment Commander from his responsibility to ensure that the product of such photographic training and testing is not observed by unauthorized persons under circumstances wherein our photographic mission should not be disclosed.

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[Redacted]
Chief, Security Staff
OSA

CONCUR:

DAD/OSA

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